the Council of Board of School Education (COBSE) has been set up to develop a mechanism of equivalence of State Madarsa Board certificates for equating these with classes X and **XII.**

**Standard Solar Power Equipments**

1012. SHRI BALAVANT*ALIAS* BALAPTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL WAS:
SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether availability of standard solar power equipments for house-hold applications is matching the purchasing power of common man;

(b) the estimated demand by the end of the Ninth and Eleventh Five Year Plans, State-wise;

(c) whether Government is considering to increase the subsidy to consumers;

(d) Government's encouragement for users and manufactures; and

(e) the status on standardization in terms of capacity of solar heaters, and other equipments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is implementing several schemes to popularize solar energy equipments, including use for house hold applications. In view of the high initial cost of the solar energy systems and devices, Central Financial Assistance is provided in the form of capital or interest subsidy. Apart from this, several fiscal and promotional incentives are also available.

(b) 6,50,000 sq. of collector areas for solar water heating system; 5,25,000 solar cookers; 4,79,869 solar lanterns; 2,23,595 solar home systems' 46,186 solar state lights; 4500 solar pumps; and 3783 k Wp capacity power plants were installed up to the end of the Ninth Plan. For the 11 th Plan period, a target of 5 million sq. m. of collector area for solar heating system; 20,000 soalre cookers; and 50 MW solar photovoltaic systems has been set by the Ministry. No State-wise allocations are made.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration.

(d) Apart from financial and fiscal incentives, publicity and awareness campaigns are organized. Some State Governments are providing rebate in property tax and electricity traiff to the users of solar water heaters. Soft loans are also available for the manufactures for up-gradation of technology, besides rebate in excise and customs duties.

(e) The Bureau of Indian Standards have issued certain standards for solar cookers, flat plate collectors for solar water heating systems and solar photovoltaic modules. In add ition, performanes specifications for solar home systems, solar street lights and solar lanterns have also been announced.

**Scheme for solar energy system**

1013. SHRI B.S.GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any scheme for installation of effective solar energy system, especially in rural areas; for domestic use and lighting;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of rural areas being equipped with solar energy system, State-wise;

(c) whether grant is being paid by Government to individual or private institutions who have interest to install solar energy system; and

(d) if so, the deails thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEM WAR): (a) and (b) The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is implementing several programmes to promote use of solar energy devices and systems in the country including rural areas. The programmes are the Solar Photovoltaic Programme, Remote Village Eelctrification Programme, Solar Photovoltaic Water Pumping Programme, Solar Lantern Programme and Solar Thermal Energy Programme. Under these programmes, financial assistance is being provided on purchase/installation of dish type solar cookers, solar lanterns, solar home lighting systems, solar street lighting systems; solar pumping systems and solar power plants etc. The eligibility criterion and the quantum of support is different under different programmes, In addition to the above, a scheme on "Accelerated Development and Deployment of Solar Water Heating Systems in domestic, Industrial and Commercial Sectors" is also being implemented under which soft loan is available to the beneficiaries through selected banks and Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. for installation of solar water heating systems.

The State-wise details of the solar photovoltaic systems installed in the country including the rural areas are given in enclosed Statement-I and II *{See* below).

(c) and (d) The details of financial assistance provided by the Ministry, including to individuals and private institutions for installations of solar energy system are given in enclosed Statement-Ill, IV and V.

***Statement-I***

*State-wise Installations under solar Photovoltaic Programmes as on 29th February, 2008*

| SI. No. | State/UT | SPV Pumps | | Solar Photovoltaic | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Nos. | Street Lights | Home Lights Nos. | Solar Lantern | Power Plant (Kwp) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 613 | 3733 | 1628 | 35152 | 21.66 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1 | 788 | 1770 | 9937 | 7.90 |
| 3. | Assam | 45 | 98 | 5870 | 711 | 7.5 |
| 4. | Bihar | 139 | 690 | 2771 | 50117 | 0.00 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 93 | 1409 | 7028 | 3192 | 0.00 |
| 6. | Goa | 15 | 283 | 223 | 603 | 1.72 |